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78-0968

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

17 March 1978

SUBJECT: Lunch with Bill Miller, Staff Director, SSCI

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1. [] of OLC and I had a pleasant 90-minute lunch with Bill Miller on 17 March. The following points were covered:
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b. On the issue of the two former CIA officers falsely accused by the CI Staff on the basis of [] speculations, Miller was equally forthcoming. After hearing my summary of both cases Miller said that the SSCI's only objective had been to be helpful and that it had no intention of insisting on a special bill or any sort of recompense for either man unless CIA was fully in support of such a move. Miller reiterated that he had no desire to complicate our administrative procedures. His thought had been that perhaps it would help CIA morale if other employees were able to see that the Agency was able to correct a wrong which has been inflicted on its employees. I reiterated our appreciation for this support and stressed how many people had looked at both cases with an eye of coming up with some form of recompense. I stressed our view that the two cases were quite different in that the officer who rose only to GS-14 had a far stronger case to make than had the officer who rose to GS-16, which is in fact as high as he would have risen under the best of circumstances. Miller said both men had talked

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to the SSCI and he said that he would talk to them again to see if they could formulate what it was they wanted specifically from the Agency. I said that in the case of the senior officer he seemed interested in some symbolic gesture, whereas in the case of the junior officer monetary reimbursement seemed most desirable. Miller asked if we could send down a few key papers on both cases which would help him and the SSCI understand the men. We agreed to do this. (COMMENT: [redacted] agrees that this matter seems well under control at this point. The SSCI is trying to be helpful, but does not intend to take the bit in its teeth and insist on any additional administrative gestures.)

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d. [redacted] mentioned that the Agency's reluctance

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to pass sensitive material to the SSCI had been heightened by apparent recent leaks by the Committee, particularly the article in New York Magazine which revealed the loss of a sensitive CIA agent in Moscow. Miller was clearly uncomfortable at having this issue raised and said that the material in the article was different enough from that which had been given the SSCI so that in fact it might not have come from his Committee. Some debate on this point followed. I made the point that the Agency's perception of the SSCI had been damaged by this unfortunate event and that everything should be done to avoid recurrences. Miller agreed.

e. I asked Miller how he and his staff felt about their treatment by the Agency. He replied, "I have no complaints whatsoever." He said his staff feels likewise, although occasionally areas of confrontation will develop.

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cc: DDO
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